

Call for papers for publication

The rationale of the ASA11 conference, which met in Lampeter at the University of Wales Trinity St David, was to consider human interactions with other living things from a perspective that does not always put human beings in centre stage. Various contributions in the keynote lectures, the panel and plenary sessions addressed a range of problems concerning the appreciation of otherness without imposing the self on one's subject of study. The strong anthropological focus was complemented by contributions from other disciplines with which anthropologists have worked, such as archaeology and philosophy. These different ways of tackling the conference theme permitted participants to explore not only shifting boundaries between humans and other living things, but also the beast within human identities. The manner of sharing creaturely characteristics, as Veena Das explored in her opening lecture, supplies the conceptual ground around which the different papers of the conference volume may coalesce. Vitality, substance and matter, whether plant or animal, as well as techniques and technologies provide the scope for this edited volume.

This current century has already been dubbed the new 'biological century' (Brenner 2000). Our conference provided an excellent opportunity to consider anthropological and philosophical frameworks for examining recursive relationships between living organisms in their social and cultural contexts and processes. The conference, and now this call for papers, present an appropriate moment in the twenty-first century to situate other species as well as our human selves in discussions concerning 'power-knowledge' and how biopowers are exercised in the lives of human and nonhuman subjects (Escobar 1999; Youatt 2008). Biopolitical implications of interspecies interaction will constitute an important focus in the selection of papers for this volume.

Participants who contributed papers or lectures to ASA11 are invited to submit for consideration for publication manuscript proposals based on their contributions to the conference. Articles should be about 6,000 words in length and manuscripts will be peer reviewed. The aim is to select contributors who broadly reflect the gender, institutional representation and international make-up of the conference, as well as those contributions that work best together to create a coherent volume. There will be a strict timetable. If you would like to submit your proposal for publication, please send a short abstract of 100-200 words and a long abstract of up to 800 words to the conference convenor at the address below. The deadline for the receipt of abstracts is 7th December 2011. The authors of accepted chapter proposals will be asked to submit their complete manuscript by 30 September 2012.

A possibility for contributors whose proposals are not selected for the volume would be to submit their manuscripts to the ASA online journal.

References cited

Brenner, S. 2000 Genomics – the end of the beginning, *Science* 287 (5461): 2173-4.

Escobar, A. 1999 After nature: steps to an antiessentialist political ecology, *Current Anthropology* 40(1): 1-30.

Youatt, R. 2008 Counting species: biopower and the global diversity census, *Environmental Values* 17: 393-417.

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